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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

FEB 12 2004

The Honorable Kathleen Blanco Governor of Louisiana Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4004

Dear Governor Blanco:

Thank you for the letter dated December 17, 2003, from Governor Mike Foster forwarding the State of Louisiana's recommendations on air quality designations for the particulate matter 2.5 (PM 2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standard.

Based on 2000-2002 ambient PM 2.5 data, you recommend attainment/unclassifiable for all 64 parishes in Louisiana. We will carefully review Louisiana's recommendations and work with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, if questions arise, as we work to make our final designations.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (214) 665-2100, or have your staff call Mr. Thomas Diggs of my staff at (214) 665-7214.

Sincerely yours,

Richard E. Greene Regional Administrator

cc:

Michael McDaniel, Ph.D., Secretary, LDEQ Mr. Robert Hannah, Deputy Secretary, LDEQ

Ms. Teri Lanoue, Office of Environmental Assessment, Planning Division